

64 THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE PHILIPPINES

Manila capitulated to the American forces, who arrived in the Islands after the Battle of Manila Bay, on August 13 of the same year, and this has since been a national holiday in the Philippines known as Occupation Day. By a coincidence a protocol of peace between the United States and Spain had been signed on August 12 (August 13, 5:30 A. M., Manila time), or a few hours before the capture of Manila. The Treaty of Paris concluding the Spanish-American War was agreed to on December 10, 1898, and later was ratified by both signatories. By the treaty Spain ceded the Philippine Islands to the United States. In turn the United States paid Spain 40,000,000 pesos (\$20,000,000), but for what particular purpose has always been left to conjecture. The treaty provided that "the civil rights and political status of the native inhabitants of the territories hereby ceded to the United States shall be determined by the Congress."

After eliminating the Spaniards, it became necessary for the American troops to pacify the Islands. Who started the trouble between the Americans and the Filipinos has long been debated. Did a Filipino insurgent at San Juan bridge just outside of Manila fire on an American sentry, or did an over-zealous American soldier prematurely fire on the Filipino lines? Whatever the cause, war was on, and before it was concluded Filipino and American lives had needlessly been sacrificed. With the capture of General Emilio Aguinaldo by Frederick Funston, the insurrection was broken and peace brought to the archipelago. By 1902 allegiance

to the United States had been won.

Military rule was first instituted in the Islands. Civil administration was begun with the coming of the First Philippine Commission, which investigated conditions and made a report, and with the arrival of the Second Philippine Commission with legislative authority. On July 4, 1901, the first Civil Governor was inaugurated and a government organized which was to continue for over thirty years.